CGB-CC-0734

THE HOUSE OF PEACE WORSHIP CHURCH "The Church Where the Holy Spirit is in Charge"



September 4, 2007

Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission Attention: CGB Room 3-B431. 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554. RECEIVED & INSPECTED

SEP 1 0 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Dear Office of the Secretary:

The House of Peace Worship Church is a non-profit religious organization that is located in the small rural town of Vicksburg, Mississippi. We produce a thirty (30)-minute broadcast of our Sunday Worship Service that reaches the general population as well as the sick, the shut-in, the elderly, the incarcerated, youth and young adults. Since its inception, our ministry has been instrumental in bringing souls to Christ and ministering to the lost, the hurting and backslidden—a major component of our overall Vision Statement (see Vision Statement attached). This new venture of our "Perfect Peace Broadcast" will allow us to reach thousands more; however, the exorbitant cost to have the broadcast closed captioned would cause a great undue burden on our ministry.

Enclosed, please find our application for Exemption from Closed Captioning (including Affidavit) as outlined in the Commission's rules (47 C.F.R. § 79.1 (f)) based on the undue burden it would place on our ministry.

We thank you for your consideration of this petition. If you require additional information, please feel free to contact me personally at 601-218-2479.

Respectfully submitted,

Ramona S. Latham,

Trustee and Director of the Audio/Video Ministry

THE NATURE AND COST OF THE CLOSED CAPTIONING FOR THE PROGRAMMING:

The House of Peace Worship Church, a church located in the small town of Vicksburg, Mississippi has a heart and a desire to reach the lost the backslidden and the hurting with the Gospel of Jesus Christ; however, our budget is very limited. The cost to air our weekly broadcast is \$250.00 per week; which totals \$1,000.00 per month that is currently not in our budget. WAPT, Channel 16 (Jackson, Mississippi) has agreed to work with us to discount this cost after negotiations. The cost to add closed captioning would be \$300.00 more per week, totaling \$1,200.00 per month. This would cause an undue burden for the church because this is currently not in our budget. Eighty-five percent of the people that are served through our ministry are economically deprived and approximately sixty-five percent of them are unemployed. After consulting a local professional, we found out that the cost to edit and prepare the broadcast would be \$350.00 per broadcast. We are unable to pay this cost and rely on the donations of the members of this congregation. We are relying on the help of the local congregation to help to edit and prepare the broadcast.

Weekly Broadcast	\$250.00
Edit & Prepare Broadcast	\$350.00
Closed Captioning	\$300.00
Total Per week	\$900.00
52 weekly broadcasts	\$46,800.00

The television station has agreed to give us a small discount of \$85.00 per week on the cost to air the program. They are unable to discount any of the other expenses associated with the production, captioning and/or airing of the broadcast. The discount brings our total expense to \$42,380 annually, which still creates an undue burden for our ministry.

THE IMPACT ON THE OPERATION OF THE PROVIDER OR PROGRAM OWNER:

To have Closed Captions added would be an undue burden that this Ministry cannot afford given the cost of the closed captioning, the size of our membership and our yearly income. The undue burden of these additional expenses would negatively affect our ability to reach those that God has called us to reach through the media of broadcasting. The House of Peace Worship Church is youth centered and deals with many issues pertaining to youth and young adults. We serve bedridden, handicapped and otherwise disabled individuals by way of the Perfect Peace Broadcast. While we get limited support from our members and occasionally visitors, we often receive feedback from those who are unable to financially support this effort that the broadcast ministry is a God-sent lifeline for them.

THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE PROVIDER OR PROGRAM OWNER, INCLUDING EFFORTS TO SOLICIT CAPTIONING ASSISTANCE FROM THE DISTRIBUTORS OF ITS PROGRAMMING AND THE DISTRIBUTORS' RESPONSES:

The financial resources are limited to the fact that the church is supported only by the local congregation. There is no state or national affiliations to support us. Efforts to solicit assistance from the distributor of the program yielded a cost of \$300.00 per program. We were unable to obtain any free assistance from the television station.

THE TYPE OF OPERATIONS OF THE PROVIDER OR PROGRAM OWNER

The House of Peace Worship Church is a church that is a 501 (c) (3) organization as recognized by the Internal Revenue Service. We are a full-time ministry with worship service every Sunday along with Bible Classes and other times of fellowship and learning. We have programs for youth (i.e. tutoring, talk sessions and an annual back to school supplies giveaway), a health and wellness ministry for the community, a singles ministry, a married couples' ministry. We also provide free transportation to all activities and services to those in need. The purpose of our broadcast is to promote the teaching and preaching of the Gospel.

ANY AVAILABLE ALTERNATIVES THAT MIGHT CONSTITUTE A REASONABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR THE CLOSED CAPTIONING REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TEXT OR GRAPHIC DISPLAY OF THE CONTENT OF THE AUDIO PORTION OF THE PROGRAMMING:

Based on limited equipment and limited technology available we are unable to do the closed captioning ourselves. We have the capability and are currently able to show on screen text such as scriptures, phone numbers and names; however, we have neither the resources nor the labor to compensate for the closed captioning.

OTHER FACTORS THE PETITIONER DEEMS RELEVANT TO THE COMMISSION'S FINAL DETERMINATION:

As previously mentioned, The House of Peace Worship Church is located in a small rural town where resources and activities for family and worship fellowship are scarce. This broadcast will be an opportunity for many who are shut-in and live in outlying and remote areas to receive ministry and help. Many of the church sponsored activities are advertised as well as shown on the weekly broadcast. The ability to air our Perfect Peace Broadcast enables the Gospel to be preached to those who may never go into a physical church building.

We thank you for your consideration of this Closed Captioning Waiver.

THE HOUSE OF PEACE WORSHIP CHURCH 2372 GROVE STREET VICKSBURG, MS 39183

2006 REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

Income:		
Tithes & Offering	78,342.68	
General Offering	66,457.38	
Building Fund Offering	1,667.00	
Total Income	•	\$146,647.06
Expenses:		
Benevolence (financial assistance to others)	12,290.45	
Building & Maintenance Expense	30,476.30	
Utilities & Insurance Expense	10,280.60	
Payroll Expense	42,004.41	
Transportation Expense (Includes van repairs and gas)	12,911.97	
Special Services Expense (Conferences, Revivals, etc.)	20,977.56	1 · · · ·
Miscellaneous (PO Box Rental, Check Reorders, equipment, etc.)	9,267.49	
Total Expenses		\$138,208.78
Income/(Loss)		\$8,258.28

THE VISION FOR THE HOUSE OF PEACE WORSHIP CHURCH

To reach the lost, the backslidden, and the hurting with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To provide, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, opportunities and an atmosphere for growth and development for the people of God. To evangelize the nations with the Truth of the Word of God—allowing nothing or no one to come before this Great Commission. Through prayer and unity this vision will be accomplished.

County of Warren BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary, (name of Notary before whom affidavit is sworn/affirm), on this 4th (day of the month) Xeptingle (month), 2007, personally appeared Ramona S. Latham (name of affiant) known to me to be a credible person and of lawful age, who being by me first duly sworn/affirm, on her oath, deposes and says: (Set forth affiant's statement of facts) I, Ramona S. Latham do affirm that the information contained in this Exemption from Closed Captioning: Undue Burden CBG-CC-6469 to be true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Ramona S. Latham (Typed name of Affiant) The House of Peace Worship Church, PO Box 1143/2372 Grove Street, Vicksburg, MS 39180 (Address of Affiant) Subscribed and sworn/affirm to before me, this ______ day (day of month) of ____ (month), 2007. (Notary Seal): (Signature of Notary) Del Harris (Typed name of Notary) **NOTARY PUBLIC**

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT

My commission expires:

State of Mississippi